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COMMISSION ON THE STATUS OF WOMEN
Forty-second session
2-13 March 1998
Agenda item 7

ADOPTION OF THE REPORT OF THE COMMISSION ON ITS FORTY-SECOND SESSION

Draft report

Rapporteur: Zuzana VRANOVA (Slovakia)

Chapter ____

ORGANIZATION OF THE SESSION

A. Opening and duration of the session

1. The Commission on the Status of Women held its forty-second session at United Nations Headquarters from 2 to 13 March 1998. The Commission held ____ meetings (1st to ____). In accordance with Economic and Social Council decision 1997/227, the Open-ended Working Group on the Elaboration of a Draft Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women also met during the session.

2. In addition, the Commission held ____ meetings as a preparatory committee for the General Assembly's High-level Review in the Year 2000 of the Implementation of the Nairobi Forward-looking Strategies for the Advancement of Women and the Beijing Platform for Action, in accordance with General Assembly resolution 52/100.

3. The session was opened by the Chairperson of the forty-first session of the Commission, Sharon Brennen-Haylock (Bahamas), who also made a statement.

B. Attendance

4. The session was attended by representatives of ____ States members of the Commission. Observers for other States Members of the United Nations and for non-member States, representatives of organizations of the United Nations system and observers for intergovernmental, non-governmental and other organizations also attended. A list of participants is contained in annex ____ to the present report.

C. Election of officers

5. At its 1st meeting, on 2 March 1998, the Commission elected the following officers by acclamation:

Chairperson: Patricia Flor (Germany)

Vice-Chairpersons: Karam Fadi Habib (Lebanon)
Marcela Maria Nicodemos (Brazil)
Nonhlanhla P. L. Tsabedze (Swaziland)
Zuzana Vranova (Slovakia)

6. At its 4th meeting, on 3 March, the Commission designated Zuzana Vranova Vice-Chairperson with rapporteurial responsibilities.

D. Agenda and organization of work

7. At its 1st meeting, on 10 March, the Commission adopted its provisional agenda and approved its organization of work, as contained in document E/CN.6/1998/1 and Corr.1. The agenda read as follows:

1. Election of officers.

2. Adoption of the agenda and other organizational matters.

3. Follow-up to the Fourth World Conference on Women:

   (a) Review of mainstreaming in organizations of the United Nations system;

   (b) Emerging issues, trends and new approaches to issues affecting the situation of women or equality between women and men;

   (c) Implementation of strategic objectives and action in the critical areas of concern.

4. Communications concerning the status of women.

5. Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women, including the elaboration of a draft optional protocol to the Convention.

6. Provisional agenda for the forty-third session of the Commission.

7. Adoption of the report of the Commission on its forty-second session.

8. Also at its 1st meeting, the Commission was informed that Aloisia Woergetter (Austria) would continue to serve as Chairperson of the Open-ended Working Group on the Elaboration of a Draft Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women, established in accordance with Economic and Social Council resolution 1995/29.

E. Appointment of the members of a working group on communications on the status of women

9. The Commission established a working group to consider, under agenda item 4, communications concerning the status of women, pursuant to Economic and Social Council resolution 1983/27. The following five members, nominated by their regional groups, were appointed:

Esmaeil Afshari (Islamic Republic of Iran)

Fidel Coloma (Chile)

Diénébou Kaba Camara (Côte d'Ivoire)

Sissel Salomon (Norway)

Krystyna Zurek (Poland)

F. Consultations with non-governmental organizations

10. Written statements, submitted by non-governmental organizations in accordance with rule 76 of the rules of procedure of the functional commissions of the Economic and Social Council, were circulated in documents E/CN.6/1998/NGO/1-11.